

The Crusades: Crescent & Cross

Video Review

Western Civilization

The Crusades: Crescent and the Cross presents the epic battle between two Middle Ages superpowers: the Christian Crusaders and the Muslims. Fought over two centuries, the conflict decided the fate of the Holy Land of the Middle East.

On completion of the video, write a one page review reflecting upon the key points of the conflict. Use specific events, historical figures, and dates to support your response.

DESCRIPTION: This should tell what the video is about, geographically, its time period covered, its major personalities, subjects, or interpretations... what holds the video together. You should tell your reader what kinds of information he should expect to find in the video, and something about how it is organized and presented.

CRITICISM: Give your personal evaluation of the video. It is stupid to say simply that you liked or disliked a video, or that it was interesting or boring. What was it you liked about the video? What was boring? What were the best or worst parts and why? What did the producer do well or badly? This is the place to detect the author's biases and evaluate them. Nearly all authors have some biases; your job as reviewer is to find it. Many reviewers spend a great deal of time telling how they would have produced the video, but this is not fair. A reviewer should evaluate a video on the basis of what the director set out to do and whether or not he accomplished it. A video can seldom be fairly criticized for not being another video or book.